

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing an anode zinc can, which has a can wall and a bottom cover, comprising:

press-forming an anode material that is a zinc alloy at a temperature ranging from 120°C to 210°C to make an anode zinc can;

wherein said zinc alloy comprises 98.7% to 99.8% by mass zinc, 0.1% to 0.7% by mass of bismuth and contains 70 ppm or less of lead; and

wherein a longitudinal cross-section of the can wall of the anode zinc can has an average crystal grain diameter of 8 μm to 25 μm ;

wherein crystal grain diameter at the outer wall of the zinc can is 1.0 to 1.4 times the crystal grain diameter at the inner wall.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein said anode zinc can is formed from a hexagonal or circular zinc pellet that is deep-drawn at 120°C to 210°C to form from the pellet a cylinder with bottom cover, and trimmed to form a can suitable for use in a battery.

Claims 3-16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing an anode zinc can, which has a can wall and a bottom cover, comprising:

press-forming an anode material that is a zinc alloy at a temperature ranging from 120°C to 210°C to make an anode zinc can;

wherein said zinc alloy comprises 98.7% to 99.8% by mass zinc, 0.1% to 0.7% by mass of bismuth, 0.0003% to 0.03% by mass magnesium, and contains 70 ppm or less of lead; and

wherein a longitudinal cross-section of the can wall of the anode zinc can has an average crystal grain diameter of 8 μm to 25 μm ;

wherein crystal grain diameter at the outer wall of the zinc can is 1.0 to 1.4 times the crystal grain diameter at the inner wall.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing an anode zinc can, which has a can wall and a bottom cover, comprising:

press-forming an anode material that is a zinc alloy at a temperature ranging from 120°C to 210°C to make an anode zinc can;

wherein said zinc alloy comprises 98.7% to 99.8% by mass zinc, 0.1% to 0.7% by mass of bismuth, 0.001% to 0.05% by mass of at least one element selected from the group consisting of zirconium, strontium, barium, indium, and aluminum, and contains 70 ppm or less of lead; and

wherein a longitudinal cross-section of the can wall of the anode zinc can has an average crystal grain diameter of 8 μm to 25 μm ;

wherein crystal grain diameter at the outer wall of the zinc can is 1.0 to 1.4 times the crystal grain diameter at the inner wall.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said can wall is cylindrical.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 17, wherein said can wall is cylindrical.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 18, wherein said can wall is cylindrical.